DOREMI
Legendary Treasures
CLAUDIO
ABBADO
Live
HAYDN
Sinfonia concertante
Chicago 1980
BRUCKNER
Symphony No. 1
Vienna 1972

CLAUDIO ABBADO: Live performances

Joseph HAYDN:
Sinfonia Concertante in B^{b} major, Op. 84, Hob. I/105 21:55

1.	I. Allegro	9:41
2.	II. Andante	5:19
3.	III. Allegro con spirito	6:52

Samuel Magad (violin); Frank Miller (cello)
Ray Still (oboe); Willard Elliot (bassoon)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Chicago, February 17, 1980

Anton BRUCKNER:
Symphony No. 1 in C minor 47:13

4.	I. Allegro	12:16
5.	II. Adagio	12:33
6.	III. Scherzo: Schnell - Trio: Langsamer	8:24
7.	IV. Finale: Bewegt, feurig	13:49

1877 Linz version, revised by Robert Haas (1935)

Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra

Vienna, June 11, 1972 (Wiener Festwochen); From Melodiya C10-16751-2

Remastering and Restoration: Jacob Harnoy and Clive Allen

"*…But that's the secret of life, I think, to find always something better, to find new inspirations, new enthusiasms. Nothing is ever perfect, and there is always something new to discover.*" (2009)

Claudio Abbado expressed this insight in an interview conducted at his home in Sardinia when he was 76. It could well serve as a credo for his remarkable artistic career. Abbado's never-ending quest for finding something better, a quest filled with inspiration and enthusiasm, propelled him to one of the greatest conducting careers of modern times. His rehearsing and conducting style was famously low-key, eschewing bombastic display, but resulting in astonishingly beautiful and musical performances from his orchestras. Among conductors who came of age in the second half of the 20th century, he stands in the very front rank.

Born in 1933 in Milan into a musical family--Abbado's father was a professional violinist and teacher, and his brother a concert pianist and composer--he graduated from the Milan Conservatory in 1955 after studies in conducting, piano, and composition. After further studies with such conductors as Hans Swarowsky, he made his conducting debut in 1958 in Trieste. The same year he won the Koussevitsky conducting competition at Tanglewood, which led to a number of engagements in Italy. The year 1960 saw his debut at La Scala. Another conducting prize, the Mitropoulos in 1963, led to a position for several months as an assistant to Bernstein at the New York Philharmonic. More engagements followed at the most prestigious venues.

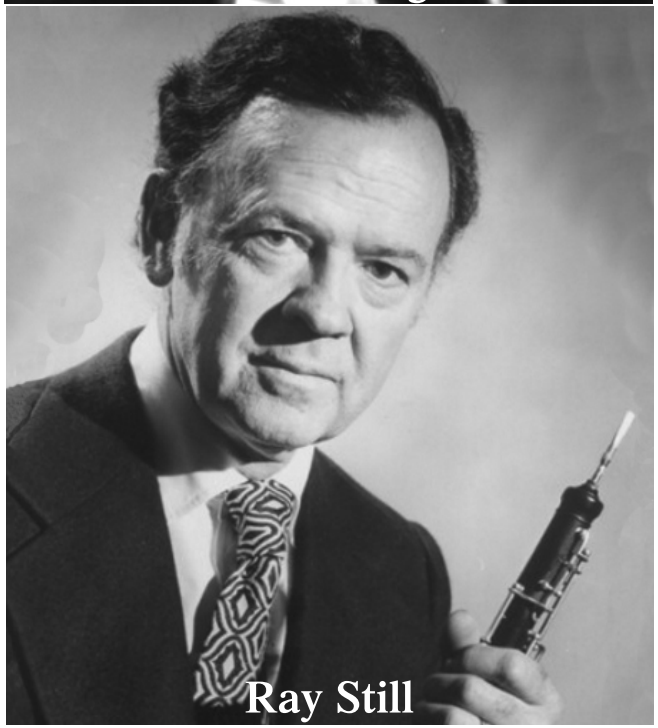
Abbado was appointed the principal conductor of La Scala in 1962, later assuming the position of musical director. Six years later he debuted at the Metropolitan Opera in New York. Between 1965 and 1997 he conducted the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in over 320 concerts and in 27 opera performances at the Salzburg Festival, as well as in 173 appearances with the VPO as the Vienna State Opera. He first appeared with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in January 1971, leading three weeks of subscription concerts - which included a favorite work: Bruckner's symphony No. 1, returning frequently over the next two decades. Between 1982 and 1985, he was its principal guest conductor. The 1970s also saw him move from principal Guest Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra to its Principal Conductor, a position he held until the late 1980s. His prominence led to his selection as the main conductor and artistic director of the Berlin Philharmonic, a position that ran for over a decade, until the early 2000s, when he was diagnosed with stomach cancer. He subsequently recovered and continued to conduct, notably with the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, which he reconstituted for the 2003 festival and worked with for several years. His last major initiative came when he became artistic director of the Orchestra Mozart, with whom he worked, despite ongoing health issues, until his death at the age of 80 in 2014.

We are fortunate that Abbado recorded prolifically for a wide range of labels, and his discography is broad and varied.

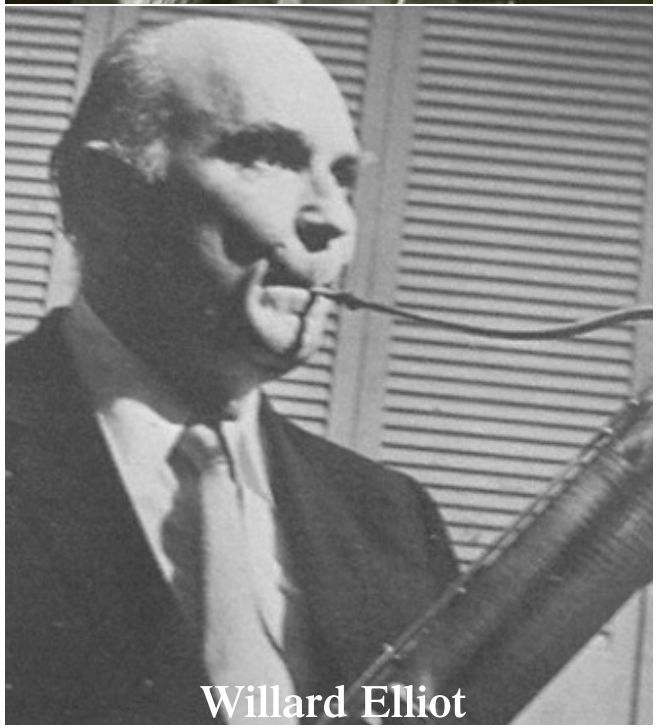
Jack Silver

Samuel Magad

Frank Miller



Ray Still



Willard Elliot